Creation of additional capacity for sugar production

576. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to create additional capacity for sugar production during Eighth Five Year Plan period to meet the internal demands;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Bihar has large potential for establishment of sugar mills ;

(d) whether the Bihar State Government has urged the Central Government to clear four new sugar projects in the State ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and what action Government propose to take thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) Based on the present guidelines for licensing during the 7th Five Year Plan, additional capacity of 61.44 lakh tonnes has already been licensed in terms of annual sugar production capacity making a total licensed capacity of 148.91 lakh tonnes as on 28-2-90, which is expected to be installed during the 8th Five Year Plan.

(c) to (e) The State Governments are required to assess the potentiality of sugar cane cultivation while recommending applications to the Central Government for establishment of new sugar factories. After the announce ment of guidelines for licensing additional capacity in the sugar industry the Central Government (Department of Food) have so far received four applications for setting up of new sugar factories in Bihar at the following locations:—

SI. No.	Locution
1.	Dhanaha, Distt. West Champaran (2500 TCD)
2.	Pirpaiti, Tal. Pirpaiti Distt. Bhagalpur (1750 TCD)
3.	Jamui, Tal. Jamui, Distt. Monghyr (1750 TCD)
4.	Dhanaha, Distt. West Champaran, (5000 TCD)

The application at SI. No. 1 was considered by the Government and rejected since it did not fulfil the distance criteria of the licensing guidelines. The remaining three applications have been received recently and would be considered as per existing guidelines.

Constitution of special courts byState Governments under theprovisions of SC/ST Act 1989

577. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many of the State Governments have not constituted the Special Courts under the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of atrocities) Act, 1989; and .

(b) if so, the concerned States and Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)' : (a) and (b) States of Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Island, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, and Pondicherry have yet to specify Special Courts under the provisions of the new Act.

The Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland have not specified the special Courts on the ground that generally there arc no cases of atrocities.

The Government of Goa has intimated that it is awaiting the concurrence of its High Court for specifying the Special Courts.

Interim replies have been received from the Governments of Bihar, Meghalaya and Orissa slating that they are taking necessary action in this regard.

The Government of Mizoram has not sent any reply.

The Act docs not extend to the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Administrations of Anada-man & Nicobar Islands, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, and Pondicherry could not specify Special Courts for the reason that the powers of State Government were delegated to them by the Ministry of Home Affairs very recently.

The Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland have been told that they have to specify Special Courts irrespective of whether there is any reported case of atrocity or not. The other State Governments and Union Territory Admns. have been advised to complete action for specifying Special Courts without further loss of time.

Rejection of compensation to the victims of Island Express

578. SHRI N.E. BALARAM :
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA :

Wiil the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that compensation claims of several bereaved families have been rejected by the *ad-hoc* claims Commissioner appointed by Government to enquire into and determine claims arising out of the tragic accident in 1988 of the Island Express in the Ashtamudi Lake;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed in the accident, number of claims made and the number of claims to which compensation has been awarded; and

(c) the details of the claims rejected/pending for decision and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRl GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 103 passengers were killed and 114 claims were preferred for compensation. Compensation was awarded in 90 claims cases for 86 deaths.

(c) No claims are pending. 24 claims for 17 deaths were dismissed as either the claimants were not dependents as per provisions of the Indian Railways Act, 1890 or the claims were rival/duplicate.